

1st March 1927]

### Land Revenue

#### *Pay of shroffs of the Revenue department.*

\* 116 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the shroffs of the Revenue department were drawing the same pay as clerks prior to 1921, that is, before the introduction of time-scales for clerks;

(b) whether the Huzur second shroffs are even now classified as clerks as regards their pay;

(c) whether it is a fact that the pay of the shroffs of the Revenue department is now fixed at Rs. 20—1—35; and

(d) whether the grievance is receiving the consideration of the hon. Member?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Huzur second shroffs are not now classified as clerks as regards their pay.

(c) The general scale of pay of shroffs in the Revenue department is Rs. 20—1—35. A few shroffs are on higher scales.

(d) The Government are not aware what grievance is referred to. The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1326 at the meeting of this Council on 9th February 1926.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—“Sir, the answer is given that ‘the Government are not aware what grievance is referred to.’ The point I want to make is that the shroffs ought to be as well off as the clerks in regard to pay, if not better, because they are discharging very onerous duties. That is the grievance. So I ask whether Government are going to satisfy the demand of these people.”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—“That question was answered on a previous occasion.”

#### *Failure of crops in Ceded districts.*

\* 117 Q.—Mr. K. KOTI REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government is aware of the almost total failure of crops in most parts of the Ceded districts consequent on the failure of the later rains; and

(b) what measures are proposed to be taken to relieve the people from the famine conditions prevailing?

A.—(a) The later or hingari crops have failed in many villages of the Rayadrug, Bellary, Alur and Adoni taluks of Bellary district, the Gooty and Tadpatri taluks of Anantapur district and some villages of the Pattikonda taluk of Kurnool district.

There has also been a considerable failure of crops in Markapur taluk of the Kurnool district and in parts of the Cuddapah district.



[1st March 1927]

(b) In Bellary and Anantapur the collection of revenue and loans instalments has been postponed in the affected villages. Loans are being granted and local board works started to provide employment. In Kurnool so far no special measures have been reported necessary beyond the provisions of free grazing in the forests and grant of loans but a further report is due from the Collector.

In Cuddapah it is hoped to meet the situation for the present by an expansion of minor irrigation and village works and the grant of loans.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ May I know, Sir, whether the forest facilities spoken of in the answer to the question are confined only to the Markapur taluk ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ Notice, Sir.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ May I know whether the hon. the Revenue Member visited the district recently in connexion with the famine conditions prevailing there ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ I do not see how it arises out of the question, Sir. But I may say I was in Kurnool recently.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ Does the hon. the Revenue Member expect the Collector to send another report before he takes further action in the matter of forest privileges, loans, suspension of revenue collection and remission of revenue ? Does the hon. Member propose to wait till a further report is received from the Collector ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ This answer was sent to the Council office some time ago. We have since received a further report and we have taken further action in certain directions. We are giving grants for local fund works and extending minor irrigation works. As regards free grazing, when I was there, I understood that it was not confined to a particular taluk. That was why when the hon. Member put the question to me I asked for notice.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ May I ask the hon. the Revenue Member to communicate to the Collector that free grazing should not be confined to one taluk alone ? The Collector sent a circular in general terms specifically mentioning Markapur taluk and stating that the concession may be extended ‘ where necessary ’ to other taluks. It has not been extended to Pattikonda. Will the hon. the Revenue Member communicate to the Collector to extend the forest facilities to Pattikonda and, if he thinks it fit, to Dronachalam taluk also ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ I shall certainly communicate to the Collector what the hon. Member has just now said. I had no information that the concession has been confined to Markapur alone. When I was there I was told that the people of Pattikonda and Dronachalam thought the Nallamalais was too far away for the concession to be useful to them. I had no information that it was not open to them ; I shall communicate to the Collector what the hon. Member has said.”



1st March 1927]

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ May I know what the Government propose to do in the matter of suspension of the revenue collection which is more heavily pressing upon the people than anything else and also in the matter of remission ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ No remission or suspension is contemplated.”

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—“ May I know whether the question of free grazing in Cuddapah has been considered by the Government ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ The matter has been decided by the Collector and the Conservator of Forests. I do not know whether it is allowed in Cuddapah.”

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—“ Is the hon. Member aware that grazing fees have been increased this year ? If so, considering the bad condition of the district will the hon. Member see that it is reduced ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ I do not think that the grazing fees were increased this year. The orders were cancelled.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ With reference to the answer given by the hon. the Revenue Member that the question of allowing free grazing is one for the Collector and the Conservator to decide, may I ask him whether he does not think it necessary to interfere with the decision of these officers and ask them to grant the concession liberally in times of famine and scarcity ? Is it not within his province ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ Certainly, Sir, if I had any reason to think that it has not been considered liberally.”

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—“ Will the hon. Member enquire into the matter ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ I have every reason to suppose that the matter is considered liberally.”

*Damages to lands by the Padne bar in Kasaragod taluk.*

\* 118 Q.—MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that damages are caused to the adjoining lands and cultivators by the Padne bar in the Kasaragod taluk of South Kanara district on account of erosion and overflow of salt water into the fields ;

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table the reports of the Collectors of South Kanara in connexion with the measures proposed for preventing the damages ; and

(c) what they propose to do in the matter ?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) No reports have been received.

(c) The Government will call for a report.

MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Will the Government be pleased to call for a report also on the extent of the damage caused to the adjoining lands and the damage that is likely to be caused in the near future ? ”